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MASHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

1970

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H.R. MORRISON

M.B., Ch. B., D.P.H.

District Council Offices

MASHAM.

MASHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

North Riding of Yorkshire

MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

The Chairman (Councillor E.S. Bulmer)

The Vice Chairman (Councillor J. Robinson)

and all members of the Council.

PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

Medical Officer of Health

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Area Health Office,
Quaker Lane,
RICHMOND, Yorkshire.

Telephone: RICHMOND 2122

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor

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Area Health Office,
Quaker Lane,
RICHMOND,

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TO THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
MASHAM RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of submitting the Annual Report on the Health of the District for 1970. The report follows the lines of previous reports.

The state of public health is satisfactory. The birth rate is 18.5 per 1000 population, adjusted by the comparability factor, was slightly higher than that for England and Wales as a whole (16.0). The general death rate (adjusted) was lower (9.1) than that for England and Wales (11.7). There were no infant or maternal deaths.

The water supply authority for the district is the Northallerton and The Dales Water Board.

Throughout the year, routine Bacteriological samples were taken by the Board and examined by the Public Health Laboratory Service.

I was appointed Medical Officer of Health following the retirement of Dr. Diggles on 1st April 1970, and in conclusion I should like to express my appreciation to the Members and Officials of the Council for the help and support I have received from them during the year.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your Obedient Servant,

H.R. Morrison

Medical Officer of Health.

SECTION A.

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE AREA.

(a) GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area (in acres)	25,995
Population (Registrar General's Estimate of Resident Population mid-year 1970)	1,710
Population (1931 Census)	2,024
Population (1951 Census)	1,738
Population (1961 Census)	1,580
Number of Inhabited Houses, 1970	609
Rateable Value (as 1st April 1970)	£72,470
Product of a penny rate (1st April 1970)	£275.33

(b) VITAL STATISTICS (as supplied by Registrar General)

	MALES			FEMALES		
	Total	Legit- imate	Illegit- imate	Total	Legit- imate	Illegit- imate
LIVE BIRTHS	13	13	-	10	10	-
STILL BIRTHS	-	-	-	-	-	-
INFANT DEATHS						
Under 1 year	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 4 weeks	-	-	-	-	-	-
Under 1 week	-	-	-	-	-	-

CLASSIFIED CAUSES OF DEATH

<u>Cause of Death</u>	<u>Males.</u>	<u>Females.</u>	<u>Total</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, Intestine	1	-	1
Other Diseases of Circulatory System	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm, Lung Bronchus	-	2	2
Ischaemic Heart Disease	2	3	5
Cerebrovascular Disease	-	1	1
Pneumonia	2	1	3
Cirrhosis of Liver	-	1	1
Other Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
Other Diseases, Genito-urinary system	-	1	1
	—	—	—
	7	10	17
	—	—	—

NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT 1948

It was necessary to take action in one case, under Section 47 of the above Act which deals with the compulsory removal to a place of safety of persons in need of care and attention.

SECTION B.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE AREA.

Laboratory Facilities.

Laboratory facilities are provided at the Public Health Laboratory, Friarage Hospital, Northallerton.

Ambulance Facilities.

The North Riding County Council supply ambulance service from their Station at Thirsk.

Hospital Facilities.

Local hospital accommodation is provided by the Northallerton Management Committee of the Newcastle Regional Hospital Board. In addition a number of residents receive both in-patient and out-patient treatment at hospitals under the control of the Ripon and Harrogate Management Committee of the Leeds Regional Hospital Board.

Nursing in the Home.

The Home Nursing and Domiciliary Midwifery services are under the general direction of the County Council, with the day-to-day administration dealt with by the District Medical Officer. One district nurse/midwife operates in the area.

Domestic Health Service.

This service is under the general direction of the County Council with the day-to-day administration dealt with by the District Medical Officer.

SECTION C.

Water Supplies.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section Sewerage and Sewage Disposal.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section Refuse Collection and Disposal.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section

SECTION D.

Housing.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section

SECTION E.

Meat and Other Foods.

Details are to be found in the Public Health Officer's Section

SECTION F.

PREVALENCE AND CONTROL OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

<u>Infectious Diseases Notified.</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
Measles	3	2	5
Scarlet Fever	1	-	1
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	1	1	2

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR & SURVEYOR.

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,

I have the honour of presenting my report on the eighth year of my service as your Public Health Inspector and Surveyor.

Without doubt the construction of the Grouped Flats scheme at Maple Creek was the principal work of the year. A great deal of time was spent in discussing a number of aspects of the scheme, including the heating system, oil storage arrangements, wall insulation etc. A number of major alterations were decided upon, the change in window type and the provision of two extra guest bedrooms (from space available within the building) being the principal.

Another major change during the year was the removal of the Council's offices to Maple Creek. This change resulted in the Council's staff being housed in premises complying with the Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act.

Towards the end of the year improvements were almost completed at Ellingstring Sewage Works to eliminate flooding of the field. Discussions on reports regarding Masham Sewage Works led, after the turn of the year, to the appointment of Consulting Engineers to report on the whole of the sewage arrangements with a view to bringing the system up to modern standards.

Preliminary discussions took place on a proposal to open a holiday caravan site in the district. Properly run this could be an amenity to the district and there is every indication that this is the intention of the proposer.

Once more I would put on record my thanks to the Council, the Medical Officer of Health, the Clerk and his staff for the encouragement and assistance given to me in the carrying out of my duties. Another year's loyal service has also been rendered by the manual workers, both full and part time.

I have, Gentlemen, the honour to be

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR NUNN

Public Health Inspector & Surveyor.

WATER SUPPLIES

The principal supplies in the district are under the control of the Northallerton & The Dales Water Board, though both Leeds Corporation and the Claro Water Board supply water to dwellings associated with their reservoirs in the district. The remaining supplies, which are private, all lead to internal taps.

Alterations to schemes during the year.

No major extensions were made during the year, but there was a supply provided to the Grouped Flats scheme by means of a branch main and loop.

Details of Water supply.

There has been an adequate supply to the majority of the district, but for a period the supply to Ilton was intermittent, due to changes in pumping machinery. A full 24-hour supply was resumed just after the end of the year.

Quality of Water.

During the year 119 samples were taken by the Water Board for bacteriological examination. Of these 4 were classed as unsatisfactory. Follow-up samples were clear. One other sample was taken on a spring which was capable of being used for drinking, this was found to be unsatisfactory and representations were made to have the pipework altered to prevent this use.

Distribution of Water.

The following table gives the number of occupied houses in each parish and the means of water supply.

<u>Parish</u>	<u>Northallerton & The Dales W.B.</u>	<u>Leeds Corp. Claro W.B.</u>	<u>Private</u>
Burton-on-Yore	26	-	9
Colsterdale	-	-	3
Ellingstring	24	-	-
Ellingtons	21	-	1
Fearby	50	-	2
Healey	22	6	16
Ilton-cum-Pott	7	2	11
Swinton with Warthermarske	22	-	16
Masham	370	-	1
	---	-	--
	542	8	59

There are 23 unoccupied dwellings in the district, of which it is likely that 16 will be returned to use as dwellings.

Inspections:

18 visits were made in connection with water supplies.

SEWERAGE AND DRAINAGE.

Sewers

All premises which can be connected to sewers have been connected and only those parts of the district which cannot be provided with sewers at reasonable expense lack this facility.

Sewage Works.

Major works - for a community of this size - exist at Masham and Fearby, with a smaller plant at Ellingstring.

Masham Works:

Reports on the effluent from this plant have, unfortunately, not been to Royal Commission standard. However, this plant is working quite well as on two occasions when samples of crude sewage were taken at the same time as effluent samples reductions of 95.8% (1050 to 44) and 98% (645 to 13.5) were obtained on B.O.D. values. I think the conclusion is that the system is right, the operation is right, but overloading is the cause of the bad results.

Fearby Works:

Satisfactory results are the general order at this plant though a faulty syphon which had not been observed caused a reduction in the usual standard of effluent.

Ellingstring:

The substitution of a settling tank for land tiles at this plant removed the cause of flooding of the field in which the plant is situated.

LODGING HOUSES.

There are no Common Lodging Houses or Houses in Multiple Occupation in the district.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.

This service continues to be provided in a most satisfactory manner by the Council's Contractor whose workmen carry out their duties in a most courteous manner.

During the year the tip at Healey quarry was visited periodically and a bulldozer was employed to compress and spread the material to make more space. Rat treatments continue as necessary. It is rather difficult to assess the life left in the tip as this must obviously depend on the final contour to which it is finished, but four or five years may be appropriate.

HOUSING

Steady improvement continues in the standards of housing in the district. Part of this is due to new construction and part to the falling into disuse of individual houses. A further part is due to the continuing schemes involving improvement of dwellings.

Private housing development is on two small estates, both of which are almost complete. A total of 7 new dwellings was erected.

Statistics in connection with housing:

No. of occupied houses in the district	609
No. of unoccupied houses in the district	23
No. of above likely to be re-occupied	16
No. of new dwellings completed	7
No. of full inspections made	2
No. of houses inspected for defects	4
No. of closing orders made	-
No. of houses demolished	-

Improvement Grants:

No. of visits of inspection and interviews	65
No. of Grant Applications - Standard	6
- Discretionary	9
No. of houses improved with Grant Aid:	
- Standard	9
- Discretionary	7

A further increase in the number of applications is recorded, with the emphasis changing from Standard Grant to Discretionary in a very marked manner. Work completed also shows a marked increase. Perhaps one explanation of this is that the local builders who carry out this work are programming their work to closer schedules in the knowledge that only in rare cases does a grant take more than four weeks to receive approval, and in many cases less than a week passes between application and approval. This is the value of a district small enough for builders to keep the official informed of likely applications so that time can be set aside to deal with the work quickly - the policy being to persuade owners to have their builders present when the proposal is being formulated with the official, with the result that the paperwork is very straightforward and no reference back is necessary.

Council Housing:

Numbers of houses and bungalows owned by the Council:

- 4 - Four bedroom houses
- 59 - Three bedroom houses
- 18 - Two bedroom bungalows
- 3 - One bedroom bungalows

The Council's scheme for 27 grouped flats with warden accommodation at Maple Creek was commenced in March and by the end of the year was at the roofing stage. Had it been possible to obtain more bricklayers during the summer construction would have been much further advanced.

Repairs to existing Council Houses involved 33 visits in addition to the usual rent collection visits.

BUILDING REGULATIONS

No. of plans submitted to and approved by the Council	31
No. of visits to work in progress	74

FOOD AND DRUGS

360 animals were slaughtered for food for human consumption at the local slaughterhouse. These were all inspected, a total of 55 visits being made for the purpose. These animals were almost all sheep and pigs, due to the butcher having no suitable labour to assist in the slaughter of cattle.

Tuberculosis and Cysticercus Bovis

No cases of these conditions were found during the year.

Meat and Food Condemned

The following amounts of food were condemned as unfit for human food:

Canned Meat	9 lbs
Canned Vegetables	6 lbs
Other canned food	7 lbs

Milk Supplies - Brucella Abortus

This is dealt with by the North Riding County Council.

Liquid Egg (Pasteurisation) Regulations 1963

There are no egg processing establishments in the district.

Poultry Inspection

There are no poultry processing establishments in the district - supplies are brought in from neighbouring towns.

Ice Cream (Heat Treatment) Regulations.

Only one producer operates in the district, from whom samples are taken by North Riding County Council staff.

Food Hygiene Regulations

The following premises subject to these regulations exist in the district:

Butchers	2
Grocers	2
General Food Dealers	5

63 visits were made to these establishments.

RODENT AND INSECT INFESTATION

The policy of free assistance in the removal of rats and mice from domestic premises and the providing of advice in other cases continues. Council property - principally sewage works and the refuse tip - are regularly inspected. Whenever sewer manholes are opened evidence of rat infestation of the sewers is looked for but none were found during the year.

MOVEABLE DWELLINGS

A licence was issued during the year for a holiday site. The owner has been helped with advice on all aspects of caravan site operation and it would appear that when ready for opening this site should be well up to standard.

CLEAN AIR ACT

The four industrial furnaces - all oil-fired - work without emission of smoke. The emission of noxious fumes from one plant - referred to in the last report - has been greatly reduced and only rarely can the fumes be detected near the local houses

OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT 1963

There are 21 premises currently on the register, 91 persons being employed. 76 visits were made to these premises.

No accidents were reported to have occurred during the year.

FACTORIES

Below and overleaf are the relevant sections of the tables required to be provided to the Department of Employment and Productivity under Section 153(1) of the Factories Act 1961:

1. <u>Inspections</u>	<u>No. on Register</u>	<u>No of Inspections</u>	<u>Written Notices</u>	<u>Occupiers prosecuted</u>
(ii) Factories in which Sect 7 enforced by L.A.	15	22	-	-
(iii) Other prems in which Sect 7 enforced	2	39	-	-

2. Cases in which defects were found.

No cases were found which required to be referred to the Factory Inspectorate nor were any references received.

Outworkers

No notifications were received relating to outworkers, nor are any known to exist in the district.

OTHER VISITS

Outside the activities reported above it falls to the lot of a technical officer working alone to visit and advise on many subjects other than those of his immediate duties. Additionally, this year over 250 visits were made to the site of the Grouped Flats scheme and much time spent, both in and out of normal office hours, on discussions about the scheme.

